



#12C  
HP  
1-20-01

Attorney's Docket No. **D0590/7003** (formerly B0192/7010)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Plaetinck et al.  
Serial No : 09/347,311  
Filed : July 2, 1999  
For : CHARACTERISATION OF GENE FUNCTION USING DOUBLE  
STRANDED RNA INHIBITION  
Examiner : R. Shukla  
Art Unit : 1632

---

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the 4th day of January, 2001.

  
Monica E. Zombori

---

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

This Amendment is made in response to the Notice to Comply with Sequence Requirements mailed from the Patent Office on December 5, 2000.

Please amend the application as follows.

**In the Specification**

Please substitute the following amended paragraphs for the corresponding paragraph of the specification.

At page 15, please replace the following paragraph: 3-20

C Any vector containing a T7 promoter may be used, and which contains a multiple cloning site (there are many commercially available). Primers containing the complementary strand, both with the appropriate ends are designed. These primers can be hybridized, and if well designed, cloned in the vector of choice. The minimal sequence for a T7 promoter is TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGCGA (SEQ ID NO: 12). Although any vector can be used for